INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

ational Application No

/GB2004/001697 A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 B60F3/00 According to International Palent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 B60F B62D Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with Indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Category ° Relevant to claim No. Α US 2002/002939 A1 (BEAUCHESNE DANIEL ET 1 AL) 10 January 2002 (2002-01-10) paragraph '0053! - paragraph '0058!; figure 6 P,A WO 03/037663 A (GIBBS TECH LTD; RANDLE . 1 JAMES NEVILLE; ROYCROFT TERENCE JAMES (NZ)) 8 May 2003 (2003-05-08) figures Α WO 02/28695 A (GIBBS INT TECH LTD; RUDDLE 1 ADAM PAUL ; ROYCROFT TERENCE JAMES (NZ)) 11 April 2002 (2002-04-11) figures -/-χ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance Invention 'E' earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention filing date document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another clailon or other special reason (as specified) cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the cat document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the International search Date of mailing of the international search report 18 August 2004 02/09/2004

Authorized officer

Untermann, N

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (January 2004)

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| | ntion) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT | |
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| Α . | US 5 727 494 A (CASERTA ANTHONY L ET AL) 17 March 1998 (1998-03-17) cited in the application column 4, line 63 - column 5, line 10; figure 9 | 1 |
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| | (continuation of second sheet) (January 2004) | |

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| Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet) |
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| This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons: |
| Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely: |
| 2. X Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically: see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210 |
| 3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a). |
| Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of Item 3 of first sheet) |
| This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows: |
| As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims. |
| 2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee. |
| 3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.: |
| No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims, it is covered by claims Nos.: |
| Remark on Protest The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest. No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees. |

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box II.2

Claims Nos.: 10

Claims shall not rely, in respect of the technical features of the invention, on references to the description or drawings (Rule 6.2(a) PCT).

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guideline C-VI, 8.5), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.

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